

Economy

SB2909 SD1 HD1 CD1

RELATING TO APPLICATIONS SEEKING GENERAL RATE INCREASES FILED BY PUBLIC UTILITIES HAVING ANNUAL GROSS REVENUES OF LESS THAN \$2,000,000.

Establishes rate filing procedures for public utilities with annual gross revenues under \$2 million. Requires use of standard form application and public hearing. Requires utilities to file annual financial statements and updated chart of account.

Creating Jobs

HB2092 HD2 SD2

RELATING TO MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

Authorizes recognition, for physician licensing purposes, of residency training received in Canadian programs accredited by RCPSC and CFPC, and of MCCQE licensing exam results. Requires Board of Medical Examiners to periodically review licensing requirements.

HB2417

RELATING TO REAL ESTATE LICENSING.

Allows the Real Estate Commission to enter into formal license recognition agreements with other states and jurisdictions.

SB2897 SD2 HD2

RELATING TO THE DENTAL EXAMINATION.

Authorizes the Board of Dental Examiners to accept dental and dental hygienist examination results from regional or state testing agencies if the state of Hawaii exam cannot be administered. Repeals license eligibility of graduates of foreign dental schools not accredited by the American Dental Association.

Improving the Economic Climate

SB2908 SD1 HD1 CD1

RELATING TO BUSINESS REGISTRATION.

Clarifies ambiguities and corrects errors and inconsistencies in business registration laws and allows shareholders to act by less than unanimous consent. This bill also authorizes appointment of a trustee for dissolved corporation; clarifies merger provisions; and stipulates how, when, and to whom shareholder agreement information is to be made known.

Promoting the Tourism Industry

SB2394 SD1

RELATING TO THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY.

Amends provision relating to Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA). Mandates HTA develop a tourism strategic market plan and update it yearly. Adds the promotion of wellness, technology, agriculture and nature tourism as niche markets for HTA to develop.

Providing Tax Relief

SB2983 SD2 HD1

RELATING TO CONFORMITY OF THE HAWAII INCOME TAX LAW TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE.

Provides certain tax relief by conforming Hawaii's income tax law to the federal (1) Military Family Tax Relief Act of 2003 and (2) Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003. Extends income tax filing deadlines for service personnel in combat zones and deployed overseas. Also excludes from income DOD homeowner assistance payments and allows direct deductions for overnight travel expenses for National Guard and Reserve members.

Strengthening and Diversifying the Economy

HB2142 HD2**RELATING TO BUSINESS PRACTICES.**

Protects the confidentiality of trade secrets and proprietary information of private companies who are tenants or prospective tenants of Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority.

HB2396 HD2 SD2 CD1**RELATING TO CAPITAL INVESTMENTS.**

Establishes state private investment fund (SPIF); provides tax credits for qualifying research activities; technology infrastructure renovations; high technology business investments; repeals sunset of the Hawaii strategic development corporation revolving fund.

HB2397 HD1 SD1**MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION FOR THE HAWAII STATE DISASTER REVOLVING LOAN FUND.**

Appropriates \$1M out of the state disaster revolving fund to provide loans to businesses and individuals who suffered damage resulting from the flooding that occurred on December 7 through December 8, 2003. The impacted areas were Mapunapuna, Moanalua, Salt Lake, and Foster Village on Oahu.

HB2569 HD1 SD1**RELATING TO NIIHAU SHELL PRODUCTS.**

Protects the public and makers of Ni'ihau shell products including the valuable Ni'ihau Shell lei, from unscrupulous counterfeiters by specifically defining what a "Ni'ihau" shell is, and by clarifying that a "Ni'ihau" shell product must be made entirely (100%) of authentic Ni'ihau shells. This bill also makes provisions for the marketing of Ni'ihau shell products consisting of at least 80% Ni'ihau shells. However, such products must be clearly marked with the percentage of authentic shells contained in them.

SB2882 SD1 HD1**RELATING TO ALIEN INSURERS.**

Encourages diversification of Hawaii's economy by allowing foreign insurers to become licensed in Hawaii and to become licensed in other states as long as they maintain their base of U.S. operations in Hawaii.
